



St. Stephen the Martyr
CATHOLIC CHURCH
Encounter, Know, Proclaim

The Family Connection

St. Stephen the Martyr Religious Education
Mary Maguire, Director

www.stephen.org/faith-formation/religious-education/

November 18, 2018

- Nov. 20/21: No R. E.; Thanksgiving
- Nov. 25: No Sunday School



- Dec. 3/4: First Reconciliation; 7 p.m.
- Dec. 16: Christmas Program; Gym 3:00 pm
- Dec. 18/19: Last R.E. and Advent Prayer Services



Dear God,

I am grateful for Earth's beauty; for the stars and for the sky.

I am grateful for this dinner; for the turkey and the pie.

But of all the gifts you've given that I'm thankful for, it's true

I am grateful for my family and I'm grateful for you!

Amen

Office Hours:

Monday: 9 AM –3 PM
Tuesday: 9 AM - 6:30 PM
Wednesday: 10 AM - 8 PM
Thursday: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sunday: 9 AM - Noon

You can also call us at 402-896-5683
Fax number: 402-861-4590

- Director: Mary Maguire at 896-5683 m.maguire@stephen.org,
- Admin. Asst.: Eileen Smith at 861-4513 e.smith@stephen.org
- Confirmation: Betsy Carroll at 861-4510 b.carroll@stephen.org
- Sunday School/VBS: Rhonda Richeson at 861-4511 r.richeson@stephen.org
- Youth Ministry: Laura Bogue at 861-4509 l.bogue@stephen.org

*Want to add something to the newsletter?
Contact Eileen at: 402-861-4513,
e.smith@stephen.org*

Confirmation Candidates

Each Confirmation candidate in grades 7 and 8 must perform a minimum of 10 hours of stewardship service (5 within the parish, 5 in the outside community). The first 5 hours are due December 5, 2018. The remainder of the hours are due May 1, 2019. On-line Stewardship Reflection Forms are available under the Confirmation tab of the parish Sacrament Preparation page at <https://stephen.org/education/sacrament-preparation-for-church/>. Stewardship Reflections can even be completed on a cell-phone. Please see the above webpage or contact Confirmation Coordinator Betsy Carroll at b.carroll@stephen.org with questions.



Love or Lust? with Jason Evert

Jason Evert is a bestselling author of more than ten books, and has brought the message of chastity to more than one million people on six continents. He and his wife, Crystalina, run chastityproject.com.

Monday, November 26

6:30 p.m. - Parenting for Purity

**7:15 p.m. - Love or Lust
(for 7th grade & above)**



St. Wenceslaus Church
15353 Pacific St.
Omaha, NE 68154

Free Event

Youth Group

Laura Bogue at 402-861-4509 or at lbogue@stephen.org

Edge: There will be no Edge this week, Middle School Kiddos! Please join us for our next virtuous adventure on Tuesday, November 27th from 6:30-8 PM in the dining room.

Life Teen: We're hosting another special night for High School Teens AND their parents! Please join us this Sunday, November 18th for a special Life Night:

Consumption. Fr. Padraic will be headlining this hot topic night on alcohol, and parents and teens will have an opportunity to have create an action plan to help keep our teens safe when they find themselves in potentially harmful situations. Interested parents of middle school teens are of course welcome to join us. We'll meet from 7-9 PM in the Parish Center.

T3 Bible Study: Let the adventure begin! Open to all 8th-12th grade teens, T3 (The Teen Timeline) Bible Study follows in the footsteps of The Great Adventure Bible Study System. So what does that mean? It means it's a great way for teens to not only read the Bible, but to understand it, appreciate it, and enjoy it. Mark "The Bible Geek" Hart is featured in the series of engaging, dynamic videos, and participants are not required to do any homework in between sessions. Beginning Wednesday, November 7th, T3 will meet on Wednesday nights from 7-8:30 PM in the School Library. A suggested donation of \$15 covers the cost of materials, including a student workbook/study kit. Contact Laura Bogue for more information or to sign-up.

Hearts Open Wide: Youth Service Squad: If you enjoy opportunities to give back to the community both inside and outside of our parish, visit our Forms & Events page to find out what's to come! We have several upcoming opportunities to get involved (and earn a stewardship hour or two), from our monthly Sundaes Sunday events at the Country House Residence, to serving dinner at the Stephen Center and setting-up for our Angel Tree Project. Family participation is always welcome and encouraged! On-line volunteer registration is required to participate in each of these events. Please contact Laura at lbogue@stephen.org with questions.



K O F C
RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
November 17 - 7am to Noon.
Contact Jason Castor to schedule
402-850-7369 or online.

There is a teacher who would love your help and a class that needs you to share your faith with them!

We have an immediate need for a catechist in our Kindergarten class; Wed. at 5:30.

Several of our classes need a co-catechist to teach with a catechist who is already in place, especially on Tuesdays at 4:15 and 5:30 pm and Wed. at 4 pm. We have many grade levels to choose from. Please consider joining us in this very important teaching ministry. All lesson plans and materials are provided for you and tuition is waived for your children. We even have child care for your younger children. Please call or stop by the Religious Education Office for more information.



Find us on Facebook

St Stephen the Martyr Religious Education

First Reconciliation

All second graders and those receiving First Communion in the Spring will celebrate First Reconciliation during the Reconciliation services in Advent on December 3 & 4. Family and friends are encouraged to celebrate the sacrament together. A reception will follow in the Dining Room. The second grade classes have been assigned to the following evenings:

Monday, December 3: 7 p.m.

2AT4	N. Shoemaker/J. Lozier
2BT4	R. Turner/B. Skartvedt
2AT5	A. Havranek/C. Meraz
2AW4	A. Rachow
2BW4	L. Baker/K. Hraban
2A	Mary Gill

Tuesday, December 4: 7 p.m.

2AW5	D. Timmerman/C. Busskohl
2BW5	Jason & Sherri Castor
2AW7	K. Cameron/S. Parks
2BW7	Carissa & Tim Nath
RCIC	Mary Maguire
2B	Marlene Roduner
2C	Angie Lowry

Reminders:

- If your son/daughter was not baptized at St. Stephen the Martyr, we need a copy of their Catholic Baptism certificate. This was due October 31. Please send, FAX or drop it off in the Religious Education Office ASAP. Our FAX number is 402-861-4590.
- Reconciliation Parent/Child packet due December 4, 2018.

Angel Trees in Gathering Space

From November 3rd-December 2nd, we will again be collecting donated items for several area organizations. Listed below are the different charities and some information about them.

• **Essential Pregnancy Services** All of their services are free and confidential. Every day, their programs provide pregnant women and mothers with the *medical, educational, material, financial and emotional support* they need to become healthy, knowledgeable, and caring parents

• **St. Augustine Indian Mission of Winnebago** St. Augustine Indian Mission has served the Native American people of the Winnebago and Omaha Tribes since 1909. Through the years it has touched the lives of thousands of Native American children and impacted the lives of their families

• **Open Door Mission** The Open Door Mission is a Gospel Rescue Mission providing basic needs and life-changing programs for the homeless and needy

• **St. Stephen the Martyr Parish Pantry** Provides food and essential items to families in need

Help Needed to Deliver Donations-Over the years our parish has been overwhelmingly generous with this project, and for that we thank you! If you are interested in helping to sort, pack, and/or deliver donations to the various locations, contact Laura at 402-861-4509 or lbogue@stephen.org or [click here](#) for the sign up genius form.





Sunday School & Kindergarten Christmas Program Come One, Come All!

Our Christmas Program will be **Sunday, December 16th, at 3:00 p.m.** in the school gym. Come watch our little ones reenact the Christmas Story. Join us in the Dining room afterwards for refreshments. This will be sure to put a smile on your face!!

For Parents of children in the Program:



The rehearsal will be Saturday December, 15th at 10:00 AM.

This rehearsal is very important because it is the only time we have to practice in the gym.

Intro and Pre-K students and teachers should go to their classrooms first on Saturday morning for rehearsal. Kindergarten students will be assigned to either room 118 or 119 to go to before rehearsal and on Sunday. Check the list outside the room. Students and teachers should be in the classroom by 2:15 PM on Sunday to put on costumes and get lined up.

Costumes:

Intro classes will be angels. The children will make wings in class. They will need to wear "Sunday Best" clothes. The children will be standing and sitting, so please make sure they are comfortable.

Pre-K students are sheep. We have sheep hats with ears and pillowcase bodies for them to wear. They will need to wear long sleeve white shirts and dark pants or tights. Any big ribbons or bows in the girls' hair will be uncomfortable under the sheep hat, so simple is best.

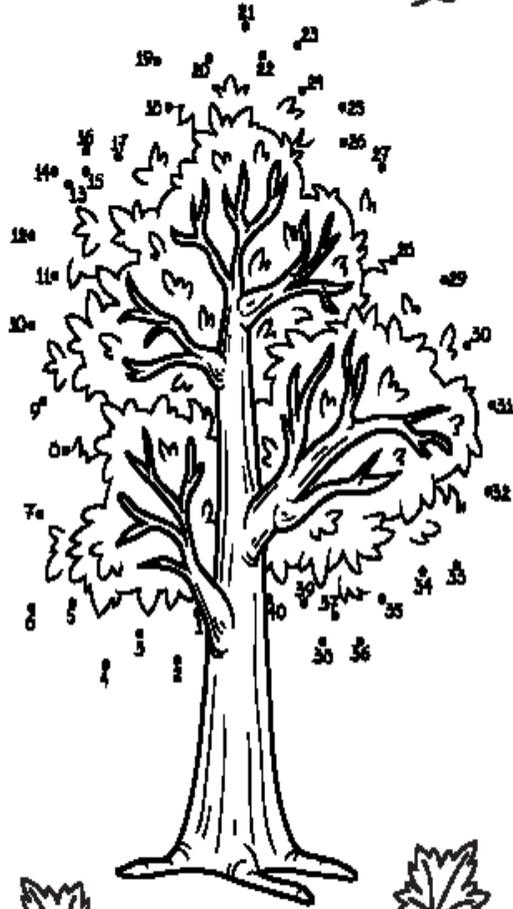
Kindergarteners will play all the other parts. We have costumes for everyone. Once again "Sunday Best" is appropriate, but make sure they are comfortable.

There will be a cookie reception in the dining room after the program. We are asking each family to bring one dozen treats to share. Please take your treats to the dining room before the program.

Questions: Contact Rhonda Richeson at 402-861-4511 or r.richeson@stephen.org

CONNECT THE DOTS

Connect the dots to finish the picture.
Color in the drawing.



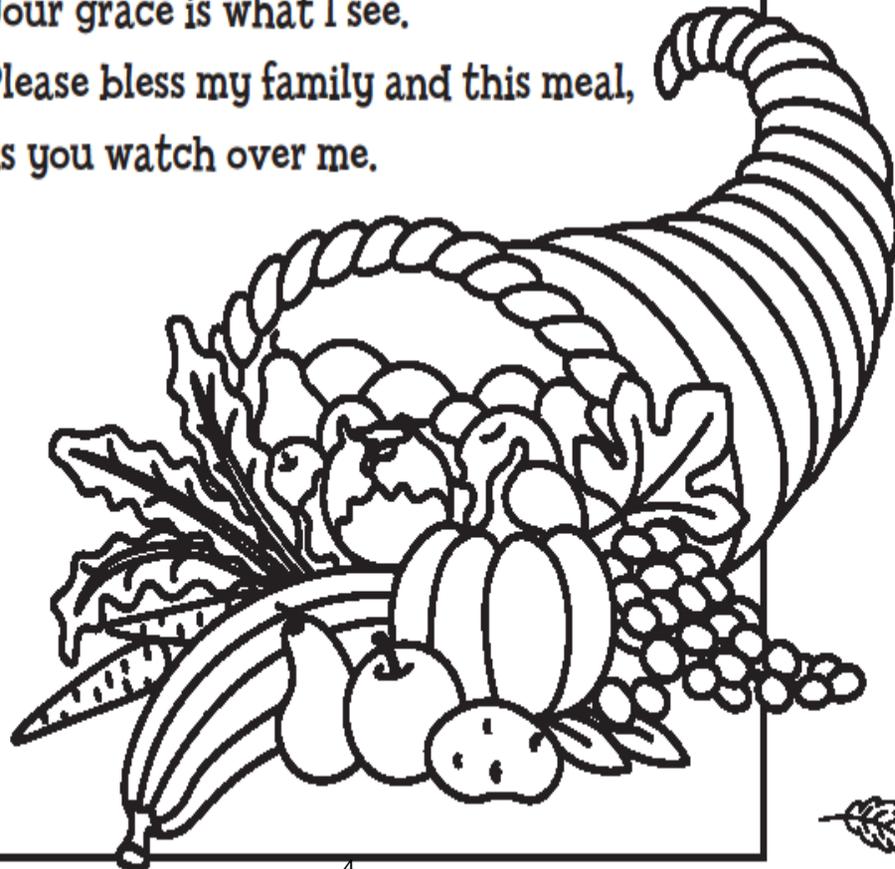
WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?

Fill in the lines below with the names of people and things you are thankful for. Ask your family and friends what they are thankful for.

A Thanksgiving Prayer

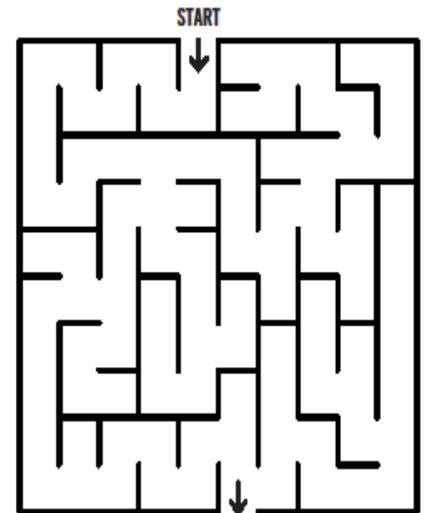
As I look around the table
and think about my day,
there's so much that makes me thankful.
For this, dear Lord, I pray.

With open arms, I feel your love.
Your grace is what I see.
Please bless my family and this meal,
as you watch over me.



MAZE

Find your way to the yummy dessert. Follow your nose!



WORD SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the letters below to form Thanksgiving words.

M L A Y F I

Y R P A

L M A E

S L S B E

